

Appl. No. 10/666,004
Amdt. Dated March 20, 2005
Reply to Office Action Mailed January 12, 2004

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend paragraph [0009] as follows:

[0009] In one aspect of the present invention, a system for managing accounts receivable is provided. The system comprises a database server for storing accounts receivable data; an application server electrically connected with the database server for accessing and processing data stored in the database server, the application server comprising a data obtaining module for obtaining data from external systems, a sales return managing module for managing accounting operations related to sales ~~return~~ returns, a sales discount managing module for managing accounting operations related to sales ~~disceunt~~ discounts, an accounts receivable managing module for managing and updating the accounts receivable data stored in the database server, and an account booking module for automatically generating accounting entries; and a plurality of client computers electrically connected to the application server for downloading data from and uploading data to the database server.

Please amend paragraph [0010] as follows:

[0010] In another aspect of the present invention, a method for managing accounts receivable is provided. The method comprises the steps of: obtaining a customer's purchase order data; retrieving advance payment data related to the purchase order according to the obtained purchase order data; obtaining a delivery

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message showing that the purchase order is fulfilled; calculating an account receivable of the purchase order; generating a sales invoice of the purchase order according to the calculated account receivable and the advance payment data; and generating one or more accounting entries according to the calculated account receivable and the advance payment data.[].]

Please amend paragraph [0016] as follows:

[0016] FIG. 4 is a flowchart for managing accounts receivable when a sales return occurs or a sales discount applies[[]],_in accordance with the present invention.

Please amend paragraph [0017] as follows:

[0017] FIG. 1 is a schematic diagram of hardware infrastructure of a system for managing accounts receivable, according to the preferred embodiment of the present invention. The hardware infrastructure comprises a database server 3, an application server 2, and a plurality of client computers 1. The database server [[2]] 3 stores accounts receivable data of an enterprise. The application server 2 can electronically visit a sales management system 5 and an inventory management system 6 and retrieve data therefrom via a communications network 4. The sales management system 5 is used for managing and storing sales data of the enterprise, the sales data comprising sales records, sales revenue, accounts receivable and so on. The inventory management system 6 is used for managing and storing current

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inventory data and delivery records. Each client computer 1 can visit the application server 2 via the communications network 4, and further access data stored in the database server 3 via the application server 2. The communications network 4 can be the Internet or an intranet.